

Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 IO-10 SAM-01

EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 AID-05 FEA-01 /091 W

----- 005802

R 301023Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6689

INFO AMCONGEN HONG KONG

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

CINCPAC HONOLULU

DIA WASHDC

UNCLAS BANGKOK 12676

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, TH, CH, TWL

SUBJ: PRIME MINISTER KHUKRIT ON THAI-PRC RELATIONS

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

THE FOLLOWING IS AN UNOFFICIAL US TRANSLATION OF EXCERPTS
FROM PRIME MINISTER KHUKRIT PRAMOT'S NEWS CONFERENCE AT DON
MUANG AIRPORT 29 JUNE 1975:

BEGIN EXCERPTS:

REPORTER: WILL THE JOINT COMMUNIQUE BE ISSUED ON JULY 1
OR 2?

KHUKRIT: I UNDERSTAND THAT IT WILL BE ISSUED ON JULY 1.

REPORTER: WHAT WILL BE THE FIRST THING WE WILL REQUEST
CHINA TO DO, IN FRIENDLY TALKS AND ORALLY ONLY?

KHUKRIT: TO BUY GOODS FROM US. (LAUGHTER)

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REPORTER: WHAT GOODS?

KHUKRIT: TO BUY RICE, TO BUY RUBBER. THERE ARE MANY DIFFERENT KINDS OF GOODS IT CAN BUY FROM US.

REPORTER: DO WE HAVE SUPPLIES OF GOODS IN HAND TO SELL TO CHINA?

KHUKRIT: YES. THIS IS WHY I AM TAKING UNDER SECRETARIES OF VARIOUS MINISTRIES WITH ME ON THIS VISIT, IN ORDER TO HAVE OFFICIALS CONCERNED IN MY PARTY HOLD TALKS ON ANY AND EVERY SUBJECT. IT IS A FACT THAT THERE ARE NO POLITICIANS GOING WITH ME NOW; THERE ARE ONLY CAREER OFFICIALS AND MOST OF THEM HAVE THE RANK OF UNDER SECRETARY. IN ADDITION, MY PARTY ALSO INCLUDES REPRESENTATIVES OF THAI COMMERCIAL BANKS AND OF THE THAI CHAMBER OF COMMERCE. THIS VISIT CONCERNS TRADE, WHICH WILL BE THE FIRST CONTACT TO BE MADE.

REPORTER: IN REGARD TO PROBLEMS CONCERNING FOREIGN AFFAIRS, WHEN RELATIONS HAVE BEEN ESTABLISHED AND CONTACTS MADE, WHAT WILL CHINESE NATIONALS HERE DO? IS CHINA DEMANDING THAT ALL CHINESE NATIONALS IN THAILAND HAVE RED CHINESE NATIONALITY, AND IS IT DEMANDING THAT ALL CONTACTS WITH TAIWAN BE COMPLETELY ENDED?

KHUKRIT: IT IS MAKING NO SUCH DEMANDS. IT CONCERNS US. THERE WILL BE NOTHING DIFFERENT FROM THE ORIGINAL SITUATION IN REGARD TO TRADE AND CULTURAL RELATIONS.

REPORTER: ON WHAT SUBJECTS WILL THERE BE EXCHANGE OF VIEWS?

KHURIT: THERE ARE MANY SUBJECTS, BUT THEY WILL CONCENTRATE MAINLY ON PROMOTING FRIENDLY RELATIONS AND GOOD UNDERSTANDING.

REPORTER: HAVE YOU SELECTED THE PERSON TO BE APPOINTED THAI AMBASSADOR TO CHINA YET?

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KHUKRIT: REGARDING THE SETTING UP OF EMBASSIES, BOTH SIDES MUST MAKE PREPARATIONS, THEREFORE NO TIME HAS BEEN FIXED YET AT THIS STAGE.

REPORTER: HAVE YOU ANY PERSON IN MIND YET?

KHUKRIT: NOT YET, NOT YET. I DON'T KNOW YET.

REPORTER: ABOUT HOW LONG DO YOU THINK IT WILL TAKE BEFORE AMBASSADORS WILL BE EXCHANGED?

KHUKRIT: I CANNOT ANSWER YOUR QUESTION YET. IT IS A SUBJECT ABOUT WHICH MANY DETAILS MUST BE CONSIDERED.

REPORTER: WHAT WILL WE DO IN REGARD TO THE PROBLEM OF CHINESE NATIONALS IN THAILAND?

KHUKRIT: A DECISION HAS BEEN REACHED ALREADY FOR CHINESE WHO STILL HAVE ALIEN REGISTRATION CARDS TO CHOOSE WHETHER THEY WILL BE CHINESE NATIONALS OR WHETHER THEY WILL BECOME THAI NATIONALS. THERE IS NO PROBLEM AT ALL IF THEY ARE THAI NATIONALS ALREADY. WE ADHERE TO THE PRINCIPLE AGREED ON THAT THERE IS ONLY ONE CHINA, THEREFORE CHINESE CANNOT HAVE DUAL NATIONALITY IN THE FUTURE. IN OTHER WORDS, NO CHINESE CAN HAVE THAI NATIONALITY AND CHINESE NATIONALITY SIMULTANEOUSLY. FURTHERMORE, WE DO NOT RECOGNIZE TAIWAN NATIONALITY, BECAUSE WE HAVE NO RELATIONS WITH TAIWAN NOW. THIS MEANS THAT IN THE FUTURE IF CHINESE ARE CHINESE NATIONALS THEY WILL BE UNDER THE PEKING GOVERNMENT, OR ELSE THEY MUST BECOME THAI NATIONALS.

REPORTER: WILL PROCEDURES IN REGARD TO CHANGING CHINESE NATIONALITY TO THAI NATIONALITY BE CHANGED IN ANY WAY?

KHUKRIT: NOTHING WILL BE CHANGED. ANY ALIEN WHO APPLIES FOR THAI NATIONALITY MUST POSSESS QUALIFICATIONS IN FULL AS SPECIFIED IN THE LAW GOVERNING NATIONALITY. THE AUTHORITIES WILL ONLY PROVIDE GREATER FACILITIES AND SPEED UP PROCEDURES THAT MUST BE CONFORMED TO.

REPORTER: A PROBLEM FACED AT PRESENT CONCERN RICE UNCLASSIFIED

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EXPORTS, AND THERE MIGHT BE COMPETITION IN RICE TRADE. WILL YOU MAKE A REQUEST TO CHINA NOT TO TAKE AWAY FOREIGN MARKETS WHICH ARE REGULAR CUSTOMERS FOR THAI RICE?

KHUKRIT: WE MUST HOLD TALKS ON THAT SUBJECT, AND NOT ONLY IN REGARD TO TAKING MARKETS AWAY FROM US, BUT WE WILL ALSO REQUEST THAT CHINA BUY THAI RICE.

REPORTER: WHAT ABOUT OIL?

KHUKRIT: OIL IS ANOTHER SUBJECT ON WHICH TALKS MUST BE HELD. CHINA HAS OIL AND WE WILL CONTACT IT IN ORDER TO BUY IT. WE HAVE CONTACTED IT AND BOUGHT OIL FROM IT IN THE PAST.

REPORTER: COULD WE ASK IT TO EXPORT MORE OIL TO US?

KHUKRIT: WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO HOLD TALKS ON THE PURCHASE OF OIL FROM IT.

REPORTER: WILL YOU REQUEST CHINA TO SELL US MORE OIL DURING YOUR VISIT TO CHINA?

KHUKRIT: SUCH TALKS MUST BE HELD AT THE LEVEL OF OFFICIALS. GOOD HEAVENS* HOW CAN THE PRIME MINISTER BE EXPECTED TO HOLD TALKS ON THE PURCHASE OF A FEW DROPS OF OIL, OR ON THE SALE OF A FEW GRAINS OF RICE* IN MY POSITION AS PRIME MINISTR, I MUST UPHOLD NATIONAL PRESTIGE.

REPORTER: SINCE YOU ARE MAKING AN OFFICIAL VISIT TO CHINA, WHAT ARE YOUR VIEWS REGARDING NATIONAL SECURITY OR ON DISTURBANCE OF PEACE AND QUIET IN THAILAND?

KHUKRIT: CHINA STATES IT HAS NEVER SUPPORTED TERRORISTS IN THAILAND, THAT THERE IS NO TRUTH WHATSOEVER IN SUCH REPORTS AND ALLEGATIONS.

REPORTER: COULDNT WE DEMAND IT TO GIVE EXPLANATIONS?

KHUKRIT: SINCE IT SAYS THAT IT HAS NEVER GIVEN ANY SUPPORT, OF WHAT USE WOULD IT BE TO ARGUE AND PICK A UNCLASSIFIED

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QUARREL WITH IT?

REPORTER: BUT WHERE IS THE VOICE OF THE THAI PEOPLE RADIO STATION SITUATED?

KHUKRIT: IT SAYS THAT THAT RADIO STATION IS NOT IN CHINA. IT MADE THAT ASSERTION TO US LONG AGO.

REPORTER: I HAVE HEARD THAT M.P. PICHAI RATTAKUN HAS MET WITH YOU TO EXPLAIN IN DETAIL THE FOUR POINTS HE WISHES YOU TO HOLD NEGOTIATIONS ON, ON THE POLITICAL SITUATION. WHAT ARE THOSE FOUR POINTS?

KHUKRIT: I CAN'T REMEMBER, BUT THEY COORDINATE WITH GOVERNMENT POLICY ON PROMOTION OF FRIENDSHIP WITH OTHER COUNTRIES.

END OF EXCERPTS.
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